large number of industries in the Public Sectors;

(b) if so whether Government have taken a policy decision to make sure that the large number of workers working in these units are not rendered jobless; and

(c) whether Government propose that no public sector undertaking would be closed till alternative employment opportunities are created for the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY): (a) Various Committees appointed by Government from time to time have recommended, among other things, closure of certain public sector units. However, the Government have not taken any decision to close down any Central public enterprise at present.

(b) and (c) In view of reply to (a) above (b) and (c) do not arise.

Taking help of accredited advertising agencies for public sectors

1482. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether instructions have been issued to the Public Sector Enterprises to take help of accredited Advertising Agencies only in the matter of publicity work of the enterprises;

(b) whether Government are working on the subject of allotting a certain portion of such jobs to small agencies (non-accredited) run by self-employed; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to support the self-employed units by allotting some portion of the total jobs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : (a) Instructions have been issued to the public enterprises to use the services of accredited advertising agencies only in the matter of publicity work of the enterprises. However, the system of maintaining a panel of accredited agencies by DAVP has since been dispensed with.

(b) and (c) Choice of advertising agencies and allotment of advertisement jobs come within the purview of day-to-day autonomous functioning of the public enterprises. The managements of the public enterprises are aspects in accordance with their commercial requirements.

Nationalisation of Bengal Potteries

1483. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have appointed the Tata Consultancy Firm to look into the question of viability of the Bengal Potteries Limited;

(b) whether the report has been submitted to the Government;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether it is a fact that a large number of Members of Parliament from West Bengal have demanded nationalisation of the Bengal Potteries; and

(e) if so, what is the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (e) The Tata Economic Consultancy Services (TECS) have conducted a viability study of M/s. Bengal Potteries Limited (BPL) and submitted their report. The report was prepared at the instance of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of